

REMARKS

This Reply and Amendment is intended to be completely responsive to the non-final Office Action dated December 15, 2004. Original Claims 1-81 are pending in this Application and are subject to a restriction requirement. New Claims 82-90 have been added. Original Claims 64-72 have been cancelled without prejudice to further prosecution on the merits.

Restriction Requirement - 35 U.S.C. § 121

The Applicants elect the claims of Group II (i.e. Claims 20-31) without traverse.

New Claims

The Applicants have added new Claims 82-90 to provide claims of varying scope. The Applicants believe that new Claims 82-90 are directed to the subject matter of Group II and respectfully request that the new claims be included in, and examined with, the claims of Group II.

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The Applicants respectfully submit that the Application is in condition for allowance. The Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 20-31 and 82-90.

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The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

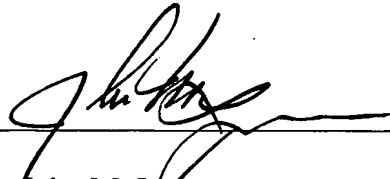
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, the Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date JANUARY 14, 2005

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By


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